## ORIGINAL

Eric Leon (EL 5780) Jacquelyn M. Rasulo (JR 9261)

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

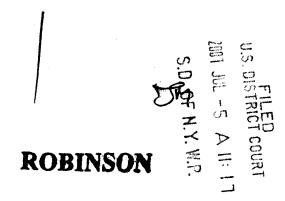
YELLOW PAGES, INC.,

Plaintiff,

- against -

IDEARC MEDIA CORP.,

Defendant.



Case No.:

07 CIV. 6221

## NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF STATE COURT CIVIL ACTION

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1441 and 1446, Idearc Media Corp. ("Idearc") hereby removes to this Court the state court action entitled Yellow Pages, Inc. v. Idearc Media Corp., Case No. SU-2007-04729, filed on June 8, 2007 in the Supreme Court of the State of New York ("State Court Civil Action"). Removal is based on diversity jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a), and this Notice of Removal is timely under 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b). Copies of Yellow Pages, Inc.'s Complaint and any other documents constituting the entire file in the State Court Civil Action are attached hereto as Exhibit A. In support of this Notice of Removal, Idearc states as follows:

1. Under 28 U.S.C. § 1441, state court civil actions over which the District Courts of the United States would have had original jurisdiction may be removed to the District TRONICALLY FILED DATE FILED:

Page 2 of 17

Court of the United States for the district and division embracing the place where the action is pending.

- 2. The State Court Civil Action is a civil action over which this Court has or would have had original diversity jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a).
- 3. Diversity jurisdiction exists pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) because the parties to the State Court Civil Action are citizens of different states and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000 exclusive of interests and costs.
- 4. Specifically, Idearc has its principal place of business in Texas and is incorporated under the laws of Delaware. For the purposes of 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a), Idearc is a citizen of Texas and Delaware.
- 5. According to its Complaint, Yellow Pages has its principal place of business in New York and is incorporated under the laws of New York. For the purposes of 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a), Yellow Pages, Inc. is a citizen of New York.
- 6. According to its Complaint, Yellow Pages, Inc. demands a judgment against Idearc in the amount of \$1,000,000, plus interest, disbursements and attorney's fees.
- 7. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1441 because this Court embraces the Supreme Court of the State of New York, which is the place where the State Court Civil Action that is the subject of this removal is pending.
- 8. This Notice of Removal is timely filed as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b). Yellow Pages, Inc. first effected service upon Idearc on June 15, 2007. Accordingly,

pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b), Idearc is required to file this Notice of Removal within 30 days after June 15, 2007.

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- 9. Written notice of filing of this Notice of Removal will be given to Yellow Pages, Inc., and a true copy will be filed with the Clerk in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d).
- 10. In filing this Notice of Removal, Idearc does not waive any defense that may be available to it. Likewise, in filing this Notice of Removal, Idearc does not waive any right to transfer this action to a more convenient venue, not does it concede that this venue is convenient.

WHEREFORE, Idearc removes the State Court Civil Action from the Supreme

Court of the State of New York to the United States District Court for the Southern District of

New York.

Dated: July 5, 2007

Eric Leon (K4, 5780)

Jacquelyn M. Rasuló (JR 9261)

KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP

Citigroup Center 153 East 53rd Street

New York, New York 10022-4611 Telephone: (212) 446-4800

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(212) 446-4900

Attorneys for Defendant

IDEARC MEDIA CORPORATION

Case 7:07-cv-06221-SCR Document 1

Filed 07/05/2007 Page 5 of 17

**CT** CORPORATION

A WoltersKluwer Company

Service of Process

**Transmittal** 06/15/2007

Log Number 512318685

TO:

Joe Garza, Jr.

Idearc Media Corp.

2200 West Airfield Drive, TX 29, P.O. Box 619810

DFW Airport, TX, 75261-4008

RF:

**Process Served in Texas** 

FOR:

Idearc Media Corp (Domestic State: DE)

enclosed are copies of legal process received by the statutory agent of the above company as follows:

TITLE OF ACTION:

Yellow Pages, Inc., Pltf. vs. Idearc Media Corp. Dft.

DOCUMENT(S) SERVED:

Summons, Original Complaint, Affidavit, Verification, Verified Complaint

COURT/AGENCY:

Supreme Court of the State, County of Rockland, NY

Case # SU200704729

NATURE OF ACTION:

Breach of contract and derogation for failed, neglected and refusal to accept such

advertising on national account basis

ON WHOM PROCESS WAS SERVED:

C T Corporation System, Dallas, TX

DATE AND HOUR OF SERVICE:

By Process Server on 06/15/2007 at 10:22

APPEARANCE OR ANSWER DUE:

20 days from the date of service, exclusive of day of service

ATTORNEY(S) / SENDER(S):

Wiss & Bouregy, P.C. 30 North William St. Pearl River, NY, 10965 845-735-1415

**ACTION ITEMS:** 

SOP Papers with Transmittal, via Fed Ex 2 Day, 798698471512 Image SOP - Page(s): 12
Email Notification, Nancy Sanders nancy.sanders@idearc.com
Email Notification, Darlene Stecz-Hunter Phyllis.D.SteczHunter@idearc.com
Email Notification, Joe Garza, Jr. joe.garza@idearc.com

SIGNED: PER: ADDRESS:

C T Corporation System **Beatrice Casarez** 350 North St. Paul Street

TELEPHONE:

Dallas, TX, 75201 214-932-3601

Page 1 of 1/MS

Information displayed on this transmittal is for CT Corporation's record keeping purposes only and is provided to the recipient for quick reference. This information does not constitute a legal opinion as to the nature of ection, the amount of damages, the answer date, or any information contained in the documents themselves. Recipient is responsible for interpreting said documents and for taking appropriate action. Signatures on certified mail receipts confirm receipt of the package only, not of its conte

Date p

---JUN. 14. 2007 11:33AM

WISS COOKE SANTOMAURO

NO. 929 P. 3

-Summons withour Notice, Black Court Personal or Substituted Service. 12 pt, type, 4-94

Supreme COURT Of New York COUNTY OF Rockland

YELLOW PAGES, INC.,

IDEARC MEDIA CORP.,

Plaintiff(s)

againsi

Defendani(s)

Plaintin\_\_\_ Rockland . County as the place of trial.

Summons

Dos ID: Type: COU Recorded: 06/08/2007

Fee Amt: \$210.00 Page 1 of Rockland County, NY Paul Piperato County Clerk

-2007-04729

The basis of the venue is Plaintiff is located in Rockland County, New York

Plaintiff(s) reside(s) at 222 North Main Street, New City, New York 10956 County of Rockland

To the above named Defendant(s)

But are bereby summoned to answer the complaint in this action, and to serve a copy of your answer, ex, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff's Altomey(s) within days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief desiranded in this complaint

Dated, May 31, 2007

Defendant's address:

Idearc Media Corp. 2200 West Airfield Drive D/FW Airport, TX 75261-9810

> WISS & BOUREGY, P.C. Attorney(s) for Plaintiff

Office and Post Office Address
30 North William Street Pearl River, New York 7-10965

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AGE PERSON	by delivering thereat a true copy of each to tend of premises is defendant's—actual place of basis							
ADDITIONS TO	and discretion. Said premises is defendant's actual place of business—dwelling place—usual place of abode—within the state by affixing a true copy of each to the door of said premises, which is defendant's—actual place of business—dwelling place.							
DOOK, ETC.	arrang a true copy of each to me door of said premises, which is defendant's—actual place of business—dwelling place and abode—within the state. Deponent was unable, with due diligence to find defendant or a person of suitable							
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5A. 🗌	and deposited said envelope in an official depository under the exclusive care and custody of the U.S. Postal Service within New York State.							
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	address or o	otherwise, that the	communication v	vas from an altorne;	y or concerned an ac	tion against the d	efendant.	
DESCRIPTION USE WITH	☐ Male	☐ White Skin	☐ Black Hair	☐ White Hair	☐ 14-20 Yrs.	☐ Under 5°	Under 100 Lbs.	
12,663	☐ Female	☐ Black Skin	☐ Brown Hair		☐ 21-35 Yrs.	S0"-53"	☐ 100-130 Lbs.	
		☐ Yellow Skin	☐ Blonde Hair ☐ Gray Hair	r 🔲 Mustache	☐ 36-50 Yfs. ☐ 51-65 Yfs.	5'4"-5'8" 59"-6'0"	☐ 131-160 Lbs. ☐ 161-200 Lbs.	
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IDEAR	CMEDIA	CORP. Ag		30 Nor	th William S	treet		
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		<del>,</del>	Defendant(s)					
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TUN. 14. 2007 11:34AM WISS COOKE SANTOMAURO

NO. 929 - P. 5 -

SUPREME COURT OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF ROCKLAND

FILED MC

JUN - 8 2087

YELLOW PAGES, INC.,

v.

-----X

ROCKLAND COUNTY Plaintiff, Index No. CLERK'S OFFICE

IDEARC MEDIA CORP.,

Defendants.

-----X

VERIFIED COMPLAINT under CPLR 3016(f) AND JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff, by its attorney, WISS & BOURBGY, P.C., complaining of defendant, allege upon information and belief that:

## FIRST COUNT

- 1. The plaintiff, Yellow Pages, Inc. ("YPI"), is a domestic corporation organized pursuant to the laws of the State of New York.
- 2. YPI maintains an office at 222 North Main Street New City, NY 10956.
- 3. Upon information and belief, defendant Idearc Media Corp. ("IMC"), is a foreign corporation authorized to do business in the State of New York.
- 4. IMC maintains and occupies offices at 2200 West Airfield Drive, D/FW Airport, Texas 75261-9810.

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- 5. IMC is a publisher of printed yellow pages directories distributed to the public without charge primarily within the United States. The yellow pages directories printed and published by IMC include those previously printed and published by Verizon.
- 6. IMC is a Publisher Member of the Yellow Pages Publishers Association ("YPPA").
- 7. According to YPPA's Bylaws and Guidelines, YPPA's purpose, among other things, is to acquire information for dissemination to members of the Yellow Pages publishing industry to aid in the conduct of their business; to represent the Yellow Pages industry as a whole before various governmental organizations; to promote the use of Yellow Pages directories by local and national advertisers and by consumers; and to provide co-op advertising information, national sales services and other programs and services that facilitate the use of Yellow Pages as an advertising medium.
- 8. The core of the U.S. publisher-members of YPPA are the so-called "Baby Bell" companies which publish Yellow Pages directories. Also included as U.S. publisher-members of YPPA are the publishers of certain so-called "independent directories", i.e. non-Baby Bell companies.
- 9. There are essentially two classifications of Yellow Pages advertising, i.e. local and national. Through YPPA, a

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definition of "national (yellow pages) advertising" was developed, which definition is incorporated into YPPA's Bylaws and Guidelines.

That definition provides as follows:

Whenever an advertising program involves two (2) or more Publishers, is ordered in twenty (20) directories or more and involves at least three (3) states, and 30% of the advertising revenue is in the states outside of the primary state, that advertising program is considered national Yellow Pages advertising.

(the "A" Clause)

- 10. All Yellow Pages advertising which does not meet the foregoing definition of national advertising is deemed to be "local".
- 11. Those advertisers whose accounts are deemed "national" are able to place their entire Yellow Pages advertising program through a Certified Marketing Representative ("CMR"), rather than having to negotiate and place their programs separately with each publisher on a local basis.
- 12. YPPA's Bylaws and Guidelines define a CMR to be "any person, partnership or corporation that solicits and sells national Yellow Pages advertising pursuant to the bylaws and guidelines, and agrees to represent the Association's publisher members in such sales . . . ". CMRs are eligible to become members of YPPA, but are not entitled to any voting rights.

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- 13. YPI is a Certified Marketing Representative ("CMR") and has been engaged in the business of soliciting and selling national yellow pages advertising to various advertisers for more than fifteen (15) years.
- 14. De facto, if not de jure, YPPA is the system of Wational Yellow Pages advertising within the United States. The vast majority, if not all, national yellow pages advertising is placed with member/publishers of YPPA through CMR members of YPPA.
- 15. The Bylaws and Guidelines of YPPA provide that "all members agree, upon acceptance into the Association, to adhere to the bylaws, rules and guidelines of the Association."
- 16. In addition to the YPPA Bylaws and Guidelines, member-publishers of YPPA may promulgate contracts including specific additional terms governing the publication of yellow pages advertising within their directories.
- 17. The advartising secured by a CMR (including YPI) is then placed for publication in various Yellow Pages directories, including, without limitation, those published by IMC.
- 18. For many years, Verizon, under its published "terms and conditions", as well as under applicable YPPA guidelines, accepted, as national accounts, the advertising programs of advertisers who did not otherwise meet YPPA's definition of a "national account".

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- 19. Included within the advertising programs which were permitted by YPPA to qualify as national accounts, were accounts commonly referred to as "Group Purchasing Organizations" or "GPOs". In essence, GPOs are national associations whose members did not individually qualify for national account treatment, but whose advertising was accepted on such basis due to its affiliation/enrollment in the national association.
- 20. When IMC succeeded Verizon as the publisher of those yellow pages directories theretofore published by Verizon, IMC continued the practice of accepting GPO members as national accounts.
- 21. In or about December 2006, IMC notified all CMRs of its intention to modify its national account qualifications effective as of January 19, 2007. Included within such changes was the non-qualification of advertisers whose basis for qualification was membership in a GPO.
- 22. Notwithstanding the change in qualifications effective as of January 19, 2007, IMC advised all CMRs that accounts qualified prior to such date would continue to be accepted as national accounts.
- 23. Prior to January 19, 2007, YPI, on behalf of Geisinger Health System ("GHS"), Clearfield Hospital ("CH") and United Church Homes ("UCH"), submitted yellow pages advertising

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programs to IMC for acceptance and publication on a national account basis.

- 24. At the time of submission, and today, GHS, CH and UCH were members of Amerinet.
- 25. Prior to January 19, 2007, and, upon information and belief, through the present date, IMC recognized Amerinet as a GPO.
- 26. In violation, breach and derogation of the contract between YPI and IMC, and notwithstanding the fact that GHS, CH and UCH were members of a recognized GPO, and notwithstanding the fact that all qualifying paperwork for placement of national advertising on behalf of such advertisers was submitted by YPI to IMC prior to January 19, 2007, IMC failed, neglected and refused to accept such advertising on a national account basis.
- 27. As part of the submittal process, representatives of TMC specifically represented to representatives of YPI that the national yellow pages advertising programs of GHS, CH and UCH, would in fact be accepted. However, contrary to such representations, warranties, and agreement, the advertising was rejected by IMC.
- 28. Despite the fact that YPI submitted to IMC the required paperwork in connection with the yellow pages advertising programs of GHS, CH, and UCH prior to January 19, 2007, and despite the fact that representatives of IMC warranted

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that such program would be accepted, IMC allowed almost two months to elapse before suggesting that there was any "problem" or "defect" in such paperwork. Moreover, despite repeated demands by YPI for a statement of any such alleged problems or defects, IMC has failed, neglected and refused to provide such an explanation.

- 29. As a result of the conduct of IMC as aforesaid, YPI has sustained and continues to sustain loss, damage and injury.
- 30. In addition to the direct economic damages sustained by it, YPI has also sustained damage to its good name and reputation in the industry for which it is entitled to compensation.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, Yellow Pages, Inc., demands judgment against Idearc Media Corp., in the amount of \$1,000,000, plus interest, disbursements and attorney's fees, as well as such other relief as may appear just and equitable to this Court under the circumstances.

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## **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF NEW YORK )
) ss:
COUNTY OF ROCKLAND )
PERGEN

ROBERT A. GAZZETTA, JR., being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- 1. I am the President of Yellow Pages, Inc. which is the plaintiff in the within action.
- 2. I have read the annexed Verified Complaint, know the contents thereof, and the same is true to my own knowledge, except those matters therein, which are stated to be alleged on information and belief, and to those matters, I believe them to be true.

ROBERT A. GAZZETTA, JR., President

Sworn and subscribed to Before me this 31<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2007.

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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF ROCKLAND

: Index No.

YELLOW PAGES, INC.,

Plaintiff, ...

IDRARC MEDIA CORP.,

Defendants.

VERIFIED COMPLAINT UNDER CPLR 3016(f) AND JURY DEMAND

Wiss & Bouregy, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiff Yellow Pages, Inc.
30 North William Street
Pearl River, New York 10965
(845) 735-1415